

# SUPPORT THE PEOPLE'S VOICE FUND DRIVE

Help us raise \$51,000 and continue building working-class media!

PROLÉTAIRES DE TOUS LES PAYS, UNISSEZ-VOUS! | OTATOSKEWAK OTA KITASKINAHK MAMAWENTOTAN | WORKERS OF ALL LANDS, UNITE!

# PEOPLE'S VOICE

PRINTED BY UNION LABOUR IN CANADA

CANADA POST PUBLICATIONS MAIL AGREEMENT #40011632

PVONLINE.CA MAY 1-15, 2025 | VOL. 33, #8 | \$2.00

# NEW PARLIAMENT SAME BOSSES



The new Parliament looks a lot like the old one, with even more pro-corporate voices and a drive to increase arms spending over the needs of people and the planet . Pg 2, 4

## VIETNAM SHOWS THAT THE PEOPLE CAN WIN!

The 50th anniversary of the defeat of the US and the reunification of Vietnam shows that imperialism can be beaten

pg.3

## URGENT CALL TO DEFEND TRANS RIGHTS

We must act to block the increasing trend to deprive trans people of their rights, equality and protections

pg.3

## WFTU CALLS ON WORKERS TO REJECT WAR ECONOMY

In its May Day message, the World Federation of Trade Unions issues a call to struggle for peace and prosperity

pg.8

## THE CASE FOR SOCIALIST PLANNING

Nationalization isn't a magic bullet - it still needs worker control, democratic decision-making and planning

pg.12



Pages from our past...

Canadian Tribune Vol 54 No 1947 ~ May 7, 1975

May Day crowd hails peoples' victories

Canadian, Chilean and Portuguese workers' spokespersons were cheered by a crowd of more than 400 at the most spirited Toronto May Day meeting in recent years, held May 1 at the Casa Loma Hall.

Before a banner reading, "Unite, defend jobs and trade union rights - International solidarity for peace and social progress," chairperson Jack Kirkby, president of Local 1967 United Auto Workers, got the meeting off to a cheering, applauding start with a reference to Vietnam.

Key speakers were Evelyn Armstrong, National Representative of the United Electrical Workers; Thomas Ferreira, president of the Portuguese Democratic Association; Oswaldo Cortez, Central Union of Workers of Chile (CUT); and Harvey Murphy, veteran Canadian labour leader.

Reject NORAD

The meeting passed a resolution demanding "that the Canadian government refuse to renew the NORAD agreement with the United States," and it called upon "all trade unionists, democratic and peace organizations to demand the immediate termination of NORAD, and Canada's withdrawal from NATO, in which the United States is the dominant power."

Stressing International Women's Year - proclaimed by the United Nations for equality, development and peace - Evelyn Armstrong said, "the specific struggles of women workers are not isolated from the struggles of the working class," but reinforce demands for "abolition of all forms of exploitation and discrimination."

She charged that "one of the most effective methods" used by the bosses to keep workers divided "is utilizing the traditional inferior position" assigned to women in capitalist society.

Crisis of system

Bringing to the meeting the greetings of the Communist Party of Canada, Bruce Magnuson noted the historic defeat of US imperialism in Vietnam and the bearing it has on the struggle for peace everywhere in the world.

But he warned that "there are plenty of places around the world that could yet be turned into Vietnams." The situation required redoubled efforts to make political détente irreversible and to achieve military détente and universal disarmament, he said.

Laying the blame for the economic crisis clearly on the doorstep of the system of monopoly capitalism, Magnuson called for a roll-back of prices and profits, and for nationalization of Canada's natural resources, energy, transportation, communication, banks and national credit; for solidarity with the forces of peace, democracy and socialism; and for an anti-monopoly alliance of the Canadian people that will open the door to a socialist Canada. ■

Mark May Day by building a united post-election struggle for peace and prosperity!

May Day greetings to all those fighting for peace, progress and socialism around the world and here at home in Canada. We have a world to win! And an increasingly short time to do it as militarism and war take precedence globally and environmental crises expand and deepen.

In Canada our new Parliament has shifted even further to the right, dominated by Liberals and Tories who see their main job internationally to increase military spending on NATO, NORAD, on militarization of the Arctic, on fighter jets and warships, and to "create jobs" by expanding military production here at home.

This will increase carbon emissions, which the Liberals and Tories hope Canadians will ignore, and will only address high unemployment among youth if sending them off to war is viewed as "employment" (though jobs at vets' hospitals will certainly expand.)

The new Parliament is also planning to fast-track new pipelines for the oil companies, which will be a huge cost for taxpayers through subsidies to the energy monopolies. The biggest cost will be to the environment, and to the increased devastation to communities in Canada - and abroad - that expanding climate change will bring.

The new Parliament's war agenda doesn't stop there, however. The costs of this escalating and inflated militarism will be enormous, and they'll be loaded onto the shoulders of the working class and working people in Canada, through cuts to wages and incomes, benefits, pensions, and privatization of universal social programs like Medicare, education and childcare, and public services like Canada Post which is being privatized now.

**This is the time for workers to demand that the labour movement unite and fight to block this agenda and to protect the vital gains like Medicare, EI, pensions and so much more that militant labour struggles fought for and won over the last eight decades.**

Trump's tariffs have already led to a severe recession in auto and steel cities like Windsor and Sault Ste. Marie where autoworkers and steelworkers have already seen mass layoffs affecting whole cities. And this is just the beginning, as workers in Alliston, Oshawa, St. Catharines, Hamilton and elsewhere can attest. And that's just Ontario. What about the losses still to come in BC, Quebec, the Atlantic and the prairies, and the North where the rare minerals are, that Trump wants?

Further, the pre-existing problems of high prices of food, fuel and housing; high interest rates; privatized and under-funded services and social programs; under-funded cities; and high unemploy-

ment and falling wages and living standards are still with us. This is about massive and unrestrained profiteering, which the new Parliament - like the previous one - supports wholeheartedly. That's capitalism. And Trump and the US government are a reflection of where capitalism globally is headed if it's not stopped by the working class and its allies - while there's still time - in the period ahead.

These are all issues that the Communist Party was talking about in the April 28 election, advocating policies to address them and to radically change course from "austerity and war" to "prosperity and peace." It was a message and a set of policies that a lot of voters were interested in and supported.

Unity can win!

But it's not the agenda that the new Parliament is going to deliver. To the contrary, workers are going to have to fight harder than ever to hold on to what they have, and to stop the drive to war on workers and on the world that the new Parliament intends to deliver.


This is the time for workers to demand solidarity and unity with workers around the world that are fighting the same exploitative corporations, the same threats and attacks from US imperialism and its allies, including the Canadian government. It's time to demand Canada speak up against Israeli genocide in Gaza and to demand recognition of a Palestinian state, to demand an end to the genocide in Sudan, and an end to the blockade of Cuba, for a start.

This is the time for workers to demand that the labour movement unite and fight to block this agenda and to protect the vital gains like Medicare, EI, pensions and so much more that militant labour struggles led by class struggle union leaders and members fought for and won over the last eight decades.

This must address the continuing exclusion of Unifor from the CLC. This is the time for unity, and a united struggle across the country and the whole labour movement. It's also the time for labour and the democratic organizations and movements to come together, and to fight together, for the public services and social programs, for peace and disarmament, and for labour and democratic rights which are all under attack today.

As in the past, it's militant leadership and militant struggle by labour, hand in hand with the democratic and people's movements, that can stop the corporations and their governments in Ottawa and across Canada from carrying through the vicious corporate agenda that about to be loosed on workers and their families across the country. ■

Communist Party of Canada



GREETINGS AND  
SOLIDARITY ON MAY DAY  
FROM THE VICTORIA  
LABOUR COUNCIL

A DAY OF UNITY FOR ALL WORKERS





May Day Greetings! Show your solidarity, work to end the US blockade & let Cuba live!



Join the Canadian-Cuban Friendship Association Toronto  
<http://www.canadacubafriendshiptoronto.ca/>

**May Day Greetings**



**CHILEAN CANADIAN FOUNDATION  
OF EDMONTON SALVADOR ALLENDE**

**May Day Greetings  
from Socialist Goods!**

Here to provide you with socialist swag-books, posters, totes and more.  
Find us on instagram @socialist\_goods  
[www.instagram.com/socialist\\_goods](http://www.instagram.com/socialist_goods)





# 50 years after reunification, Vietnam still stands as proof imperialism can be defeated



AMIAD HOROWITZ

In May 1962, US Secretary of Defense Robert McNamara visited the Republic of Vietnam for the first time. After just 48 hours on the ground, he made a now-infamous declaration: “Every quantitative measurement... shows that we are winning the war.”

At the time, such a statement echoed the prevailing hubris within the US military and political elite, who viewed the war in Vietnam as a mere obstacle, a brief conflict to suppress the communist “domino-affect” and protect US geopolitical interests in Southeast Asia.

Thirteen years later, almost to the day, on April 30, 1975, those assumptions were shattered. Tanks of the National Liberation Front (often labeled the “Viet Cong” in Western media) crashed through the gates of the Presidential Palace in Saigon. The US-backed regime crumbled, and with it, the myth of American invincibility.

At the war’s onset, few doubted that the United States, the richest, most heavily armed nation in the world, would prevail. With its vast arsenal, cutting-edge technology and support from allies like Australia, South Korea, New Zealand, Thailand and the Philippines, US military dominance seemed undefeatable. In contrast, the Democratic Republic of Vietnam and its southern allies in the National Liberation Front were written off as mere “farmers,” outgunned and under-resourced.

However, this analysis ignored the fact that the Vietnamese people were fighting not for domination, but for liberation. Under the leadership of Ho Chi Minh and the Communist Party of Vietnam, they sought national reunification, independence, and an end to foreign occupation. Their struggle was rooted in decades of anti-colonial resistance, against the French colonialists, the Japanese fascists and now the US imperialists.

While generals in Washington pored over statistics and body counts, Ho Chi Minh remained resolute in the face of overwhelming odds. In a 1966 appeal, he declared, “Our cause is just, our people are united from North to South; we have a tradition of undaunted struggle and the great sympathy and support of the fraternal socialist countries and progressive people all over the world. We shall win!”

This was not empty rhetoric. It was a reflection of the Vietnamese revolutionary spirit and the confidence that no empire could defeat the strength of the Vietnamese people fighting for their country.

The US military, with all its technology, found itself mired in a war it did not understand and could not control. US bombs flattened villages and cities, chemical weapons like Agent Orange scarred the land and its people for generations, and yet, the Vietnamese resistance endured. Each military setback for the US was not just a tactical loss, but a political one, eroding support at home and delegitimizing the war internationally.

Indeed, the American public’s stance shifted dramatically. Initially swept up in Cold War fears of communism, many citizens soon saw the war for what it was – an imperialist venture serving the interests of US capital, not democracy. Millions across the United States joined the anti-war movement, including veterans, students and millions of working-class people. The credibility of US political leadership eroded, and the country’s divisions deepened.

Globally, the Vietnamese victory reverberated like a shockwave. In the Global South, people living under colonial or neocolonial domination saw Vietnam as a symbol of what was possible. From the occupied territories of Palestine to the townships of apartheid South Africa, from the jungles of Nicaragua to the highlands of Bolivia, revolutionaries drew inspiration from the Vietnamese people’s triumph. Vietnam proved that empire could be defeated.

Even within the corridors of power in Washington, the consequences were profound. The so-called “Vietnam Syndrome” set in, a term used by politicians and pundits to describe the US government’s newfound hesitation to deploy military force abroad. While short-lived, this period of caution reflected a temporary rupture in American imperial confidence.

**The US military, with all its technology, found itself mired in a war it did not understand and could not control. Each military setback for the US was not just a tactical loss, but a political one,**

Now, in 2025, Vietnam prepares to mark the 50th anniversary of that historic victory. In Ho Chi Minh City – formerly Saigon – the site of the final defeat of US-backed South Vietnamese forces, the largest military parade in the nation’s history was set to unfold at the end of April. Guests from across the world, including long-time allies like China, Laos and Cambodia, as well as former adversaries like the United States, will gather to commemorate the victory.

But this is not just a celebration of the past. For many Vietnamese, especially younger generations, it is a reminder of the country’s hard-won independence, the price of peace, and the enduring legacy of anti-imperialist struggle. It is also a time to reflect on how far the nation has come – from the rubble of war to a reunified country charting its path forward towards socialism.

Fifty years later, the victory of April 30, 1975, continues to resonate, not just in Vietnam, but around the world. It remains a profound lesson in the limits of empire and the power of people determined to be free. ■

People’s World



## In face of British court decision, governments in Canada need to be pressed to protect trans rights

DAVE MCKEE

The struggle for trans rights – and for gender equality overall – was dealt a new setback on April 16, after Britain’s Supreme Court ruled that trans women are not considered to be women under equality laws.

It’s a ruling that will quickly have implications in Canada, where right-wing forces including Pierre Poilievre’s Conservative Party are using reactionary versions of women’s rights as a weapon against trans people and 2S/LGBTQ+ people in general.

The British court’s 88-page decision affirms that trans people are protected against discrimination and harassment, but then states that “provisions relating to single-sex services can only be interpreted by reference to biological sex.” This means that trans women may be legally denied access to services such as advocacy, crisis intervention and shelter to women experiencing domestic violence.

The decision deals specifically with interpretations of British legislation, and will no doubt be the substance of many appeals, pushbacks and counter-legislation. But it seems like the kind of “separate but equal” argument which has been invoked in other times and places to maintain and systematize inequality, division and oppression, often with violent and even deadly outcomes.

While trans rights may not be a headline issue during the current federal election in Canada – the Conservatives likely prefer to let it sit idle, given the backlash they are already getting over their association with Donald Trump-style far-right policies – this is no time let the issue coast. In fact, this is precisely the time to press parties to commit their support for gender equality including trans rights.

After all, conservative parties across

Canada have driven a spate of anti-trans bigotry over the past two years, ranging from laws requiring schools to “out” trans or non-binary students to parents, to declaring that there are only two genders, to adopting policies which severely limit gender-affirming care for young people and create “women-only” spaces that refuse access to trans and gender-diverse people.

**Trans rights connected to women’s equality**

This anti-trans wave is happening at the same time as concerted attacks, by those same parties, on women’s equality in general – and that speaks volumes.

Those attacks include wage freezes and restraint throughout the broader public sector, which disproportionately affects women who comprise a majority of workers in those jobs. Consider the fact that Ontario’s Bill 124, which limited wage and benefit increases in the broader public sector to one percent, forcibly reduced the incomes of so many women that the overall gender pay gap actually increased.

They also include efforts to limit child-care and even actively undermine the federal government’s \$10-a-day plan, with conservative provincial governments delaying negotiating deals with Ottawa and insisting on heavy involvement of for-profit childcare operators.

Conservative parties and movements are undermining women’s hard-earned abortion rights. Sometimes this is through direct anti-choice campaigning, but it’s more often through a combination of funding cuts to hospitals providing abortions, rejection of safe access zones around clinics, or legislation to “protect the right to abortion” but which opens the door for anti-choice forces

■ TRANS AND GENDER EQUALITY, PG 10

## Communist Party condemns rising reactionary attack on rights of trans people

The Central Executive Committee of the Communist Party of Canada has expressed deep dismay at the recent attempts in a number of countries, and within Canada as well, to deprive trans and gender-diverse people of their right to legal and political equality and protections.

The latest example is the April 16 ruling by the UK Supreme Court that only so-called “biological” but not trans women meet the legal definition of a woman. While this is presented by some as just a narrow ruling to “clarify” matters, the ruling is the latest and most significant in a wider trend to impose reactionary social policies.

The trajectory of this trend is clear; as Donald Trump stated just a few days earlier, his administration’s aim is to eliminate equality rights for all sections of the 2SLGBTQ+ population in the United States, a strategy which would effectively create second-class status for millions of people. This outlook is promoted by far-right, homophobic, transphobic and misogynist forces in Canada as well.

These direct attacks on the recognition of trans rights as human rights form the tip of the spear in a concerted, determined hate campaign to whip up hostility against 2SLGBTQ+ people, with the goal of divid-



ing working people against our real enemies – the capitalist class and corporate-backed right-wing political movements.

The ideology behind this campaign is utterly false, since there is no scientific basis for the false “binary” view that humanity is composed of two genders visible at birth, nor for the absurd claim that trans people and the 2SLGBTQ+ community in general are somehow “stealing” the rights of others.

Our Party’s position upholds the traditional maxim of the working-class movement – an injury to one is an injury to all. Depriving one group of their social and political rights inevitably undermines the ability to unite in

■ CALL FOR UNITY, PG 10



# EDITORIAL

## PARLIAMENT SINGS SAME TIRED TUNE WHEN IT COMES TO “SECURITY”

With the federal election behind us, we have to be very clear about something – the new Parliament looks a lot like the old one, with an abundance of pro-corporate voices and a thirst for more military spending.

In fact, with respect to the latter, the new Parliament has shifted even further to the right and is now dominated by Liberals and Conservatives who see their main global task to be increasing military spending to astronomical levels. Tens of billions more for NATO and NORAD, for militarizing the Arctic, for fighter jets and warships.

But there is only one country which has ever invaded Canada and there is only one country that is threatening it now – the United States. Sure, we’ve been fed years of bogeyman stories about how we’re threatened by Russia, China or Iran. But none of them has ever said a word of threat or taken any action which could be perceived as a threat – including interfering in our elections – while the US has done so openly and proudly.

To Canada’s shame, we have been a willing ally in many US interventions, attacks and invasions of other countries – when we should have been a voice for peace and disarmament.

The only logical response to the threats from the US is for Canada to get out of NATO and NORAD. Why would anyone be in a military alliance with a country threatening to invade it? As for military defences – if the US really wanted to attack, we are unable to defend ourselves because it would have the advantage in every area.

So, faced with this fact and the reality that no one else has any intention of invading, let’s begin to rid ourselves of the overly pricey, financially destructive and essentially useless military expenditures like new planes and warships.

Both Mark Carney and Pierre Pollièvre have promised to build a military base in the north, supposedly to defend the Arctic. The residents of the northern parts of Canada need many things but a military base is not one of them. They need healthcare, housing, social services, educational facilities and teachers, and infrastructure.

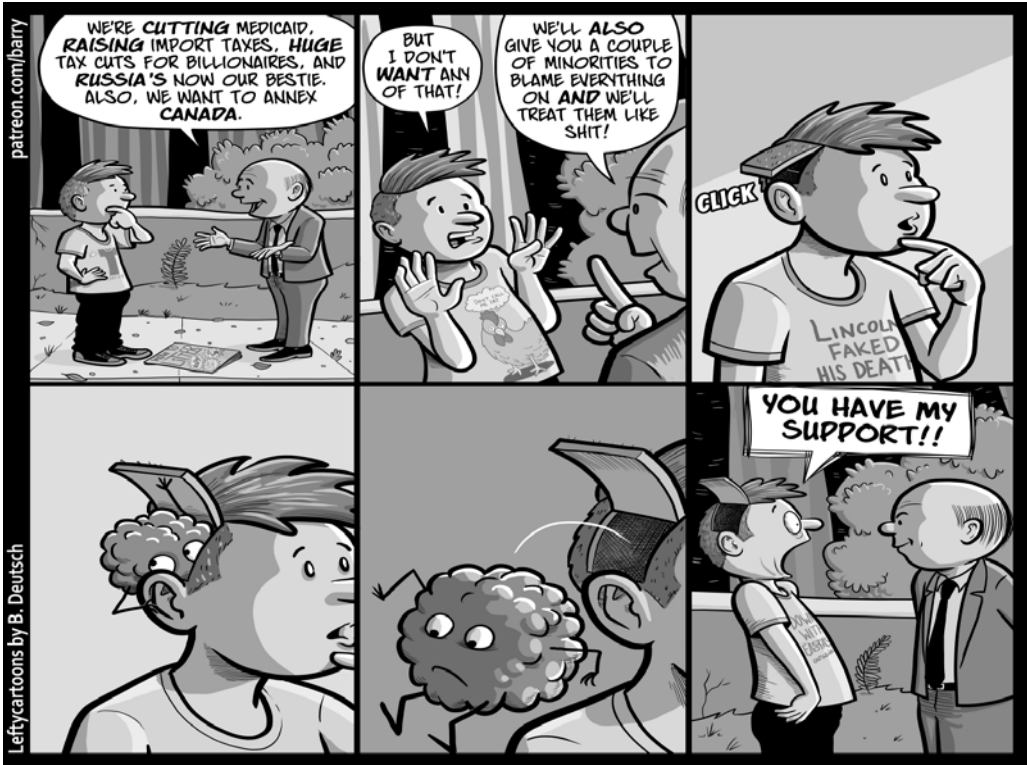
And just to be clear, what you spend on military you aren’t spending on those other options. Arguments that a military base will create jobs are true, but they fail to mention that those other forms of spending create more jobs. According to Researchgate, \$1 billion spent on the military creates 11,600 jobs whereas that same \$1 billion spent on clean energy creates 17,100 jobs. Spent on healthcare, it creates 19,600 jobs and spent on education, 29,100 jobs.

So, if we really want to help the north, a military base is the last thing the government should consider. Those other services are not only a better job creator, but they also actually produce something that the residents can use. This cannot be said for a military base.

It’s time to reject our reliance on military solutions. Canada will be strong, not because of its military but because its people feel that it is a country which is worth our support. That means a country of greater economic equality, not less; of more social services, not private ones; a country with a record of supporting workplace justice, environmental justice, climate justice; a country with more social equality, not less.

And it must be said, on all of these issues, the US is not a model we should attempt to emulate – it is a country which has placed the private economic interests of its elites over the social needs of every other person in the country.

The election is over, but the struggle for peace and prosperity continues. ♦



## IN BRIEF

PEOPLE'S VOICE welcomes your letters. We reserve the right to edit for length and clarity, and to refuse to print letters which may be libellous or which contain personal attacks.

### Ontario teachers call on pension plan to divest from Israeli war crimes

We are a group of Ontario Teachers Pension Plan (OTPP) beneficiaries deeply disturbed that our pensions are being invested in weapons manufacturers who directly contribute to and profit from Israel’s attacks on Palestinians in Gaza.

Israeli attacks have killed or wounded more than 100 thousand Palestinians. And, of those killed, the majority are women and children.

The most respected human right organizations in the world – including the UN, Amnesty International, Human Rights Watch, and B’Tselem – have documented multiple war crimes committed by the Israeli Military which is being provided weaponry and components by the following OTPP invested companies: Honeywell, Leidos, Booz Allen Hamilton and Safran.

As Ontario teachers we have spent much of our lives committed to the express duty mandated by the Teachers Profession Act to “promote respect for human rights” and to “critically examine the issue of the impact of militarism and war on children” (OTF Bylaws).

These OTPP investments are directly complicit in the killing of over 16,000 children in Gaza, leaving thousands more with life altering physical and mental injuries, so it is very much our duty – and that of every OTF affiliate leader – to demand the plan divest from these companies immediately.

As of today, both the Ontario Secondary Schools Teachers Federation (OSSTF) as well as the Elementary Teachers Federation of Ontario (ETFO), representing over 140,000 Ontario teachers have written to the Pension Plan President, Jo Taylor, demanding he stop

investing in weapons of war in our name.

Taylor has ignored those collective demands saying that weapons war play an “essential role” that “delivers returns” to plan members.

We say not in our name. We say: Divest from war. Divest from war crimes." ■

[worldbeyondwar.org/otpp](http://worldbeyondwar.org/otpp)

### Chinese Canadian group calls out Carney for smear

Dear Mr. Carney,

It is with a heavy heart that we write this letter, in response to your recent remarks during the national leaders’ debate. When asked about the greatest security threat facing Canada, your reply – “China, and Chinese people” – was both shocking and deeply troubling.

We fully understand the complexities of international relations and the difficult responsibilities leaders face when addressing national security. However, associating a foreign government with an entire ethnic group can easily lead to misunderstanding and anxiety, especially for Chinese Canadians who call this country home. Your words have caused harm and confusion within our community.

Chinese Canadians have already endured wrongful treatment and false accusations fueled by extreme conservative forces.

During 2022–2023, the Conservative Party persistently politicized “national security” concerns, targeting Chinese Canadian organizations and individuals with normal ties to China, based on unverified media reports and exaggerated claims. Even though investigations by authoritative agencies such as the RCMP found no evidence of illegal activity, this narrative continues. The Conservatives have essentially reduced complex international

relations to an “us vs. them” story, exploiting public fears to gain political advantage. The consequences go beyond isolated cases of injustice or discrimination – they strike at the very foundation of Canada’s multicultural society, which is built on the belief that people of all backgrounds can contribute equally.

It is crucial, when addressing global issues, to clearly distinguish between the actions of foreign governments and the citizens from those cultural backgrounds who live peacefully and contribute positively to Canada. Regardless of your intent, your statement has caused concern at a time when Asian communities across North America are feeling increasingly vulnerable.

History reminds us that language holds great power – it can heal, or it can harm. From the Chinese Head Tax and the Exclusion Act to the recent rise in anti-Asian hate, we have learned to listen carefully to the messages conveyed through public discourse.

With respect and sincerity, we make the following requests:

That you clarify the meaning and context of your remarks during the debate;

And that in future discussions involving foreign affairs or national security, you take special care to avoid language that could be interpreted as conflating international political issues with domestic ethnic communities.

We continue to believe that Canada is a country that values diversity and upholds equality for all. We hope you will listen to the voices from our community and respond with empathy and responsible leadership. ■

Canada China Friendship  
Promotion Association  
(shortened for space)

# PEOPLE'S VOICE

ISSN # 1198-8657 | PUBLISHED BY NEW LABOUR PRESS LTD.

CANADIAN PUBLICATIONS MAIL SALES PRODUCT AGREEMENT #40011632

Return undeliverable Canadian addresses to our Toronto office:  
290A Danforth Ave., Toronto, ON, M4K 1N6  
416.469.2481

EDITOR: Dave McKee, [peoplesvoiceditor@gmail.com](mailto:peoplesvoiceditor@gmail.com)

CIRCULATION: [newlabourpress1@gmail.com](mailto:newlabourpress1@gmail.com)

### EDITORIAL ADVISORY BOARD:

Ivan Byard, Kimball Cariou, Miguel Figueroa, Drew Garvie, Jeanne McGuire,  
Elizabeth Rowley, Adrien Welsh

[PVONLINE.CA](http://PVONLINE.CA)

## \*CHECK YOUR LABEL! RENEW YOUR PV TODAY!\*

Please check the address label on the front page to see if it's time to renew.

Subscribers who find “25/05/01” on their label, for example, will have their subscriptions expire with this issue, MAY 1-15, 2025. Send your renewal today!

## DEADLINES FOR NEXT ISSUE

Please send submissions (articles, interviews, photos, events, announcements) for our May 16-31 issue by  
May 5 and for our June 1-15 issue by May 19 to [peoplesvoiceditor@gmail.com](mailto:peoplesvoiceditor@gmail.com)



# Rural areas need real public transit and transportation, not municipal “partnerships” with Uber

JARED NORRIS

If one is not fortunate enough to grow up with a car in Innisfil, Ontario, you’re virtually stranded in your town surrounded by vast swaths of farmland with no services within walking distance. This is how I grew up and the idea of public transportation in my small town has never been more than a pipe dream.

The reality of growing up in rural Canada is a lack of public infrastructure, even in a place so close to our largest metropolis, just one hour north of Toronto. Innisfil is made up of a few moderately sized towns and several small hamlets, where the vast majority of people work outside of Innisfil and are required to drive to get anywhere.

For the working class in these towns, even getting groceries can be a massive ordeal, as paying for a taxi to the nearest supermarket can be as expensive as \$50 both ways. Often, families like mine have to coordinate with neighbours for a ride. Until recently the only service or shop within walking distance of my family home was a convenience store with an attached LCBO liquor store, which became more of a gathering place for us rural Canadians than a local church. Needless to say, owning and maintaining a car is required for anyone living in these communities (approximately \$1,400 in monthly expenses), and the problem of car dependency has long been a known issue to concerned locals.

When I was a student mayor for a day during 2013, I remember hearing residents’ plea to the real mayor to consider a modest one-bus service to make inter-town travel affordable for the elderly and relatively poor population of Innisfil. The local petty bourgeois politicians never considered a bus system even remotely feasible, and though they heard out concerned residents, the question was tabled for another time.

In 2017, a private company that we are all familiar with now provided the solution. Instead of an expensive public transit system, Innisfil decided to make a first of its kind partnership with Uber. The city would take public funds to subsidize Uber rides, which Uber promised would thrust Innisfil into the future.

This was big news back then and the deal remains in place to this day. If you look at Uber’s website advertising the partnership it portrays their intervention as a common sense, modern solution which is mutually beneficial. Uber’s website even gives price estimates for how much the township would have had to pay to operate those ridiculous bus systems, over \$600,000 for the one-bus route I mentioned above. That’s operating costs, labour and upfront capital investments for the much-needed infrastructure of yesterday.

What Uber does not mention is the

amount the town pays the company to subsidize these Uber trips. According to Innisfil Today, around \$800,000 in 2022 and over \$1.1 million in 2023 was given to this company which does not provide jobs, but unstable gig work; does not produce infrastructure; and failed to implement a system that actually provides more access to resources for the township. What was originally a \$3 trip from anywhere to anywhere in the township, is now \$6 and you must be picked up from a designated “stop” location. This system completely flies in the face of their marketing that a bus system only works for residents within walking distance – and now I have to walk to the Uber-stop with my Uber-ticket, just so the township can pay Uber for me to get a ride from my neighbour anyway!

If the company were to suddenly lose profits in Innisfil, what is to stop them from just abandoning these small collections of towns? Many residents of Innisfil are completely dependent on Uber to get around their own town, and the mere idea of public transport is a dying one in all of Simcoe county. Nearby, the city of Barrie has just recently in summer 2024 gutted its buses in favour of a “bus on demand” system which is a clear gift to make public services worse as an excuse to get rid of them altogether. This partnership is nothing more than a highly propagandized privatization of what should have been a public service, one that is mildly convenient on the one hand, but ludicrously expensive in exchange for nothing changing for the average person.

An expanded public option would have meant an investment in infrastructure, real jobs, and have tangible positive effects on the health and well being of working people. In our modern world transit functions as the veins and arteries of a productive society, especially in a highly suburbanized country like Canada where everyone commutes. It only hurts the working class when a vital resource like that is monopolized by foreign corporations that are accountable only to their shareholders. Clearly, the local landlords and businesspeople who make up our city councils do not have the interests of the “public” in mind when they auction off our supposedly “public” infrastructure. We, the working class, must demand more. We must fight collectively for a better country, one where working people have a say in the systems which most affect them, rather than letting the out-of-touch capitalist class dictate it for us. Under the current capitalist system our services can and will be sold off to the highest bidder. Only socialism can provide truly publicly funded and democratically controlled transportation that works for the people. ■

Rebel Youth

# Peace Congress: Celebrate 80th anniversary of May 9 “Victory over Fascism” by mobilizing for peace



May 9, 2025 marks the 80th anniversary of the defeat of fascism in Europe. It was a crucial victory for the world’s peoples and for peace.

One cannot overlook the historic and Herculean effort needed to overcome both the Nazi and Italian fascists. Fifteen million military personnel were killed, and 38 million civilians lost their lives. We can never forget the huge sacrifices made by the Soviet Union where over 26 million died.

Consider the horrors of the Holocaust, in which 6 million Jews perished, and the murder of numerous others such as Roma, LGBTIQ+ people, prisoners of war and partisans. If we have learned one lesson it is that no government or system must never be allowed to commit such atrocities again.

Celebrating this historic anniversary is even more important today as fascism is, once again, raising its ugly head. From standing ovations in Canada’s Parliament in celebration of a Ukrainian Nazi, to liberal celebratory remarks on how it’s “ok to be a Zionist,” to the widespread adoption of the so-called IHRA “definition” of antisemitism which deems anti-Zionism and criticism of Israeli apartheid to be hate crimes, to the numerous hate groups now active in Canada – fascist hate is on the rise.

Canadian bourgeois parties such as the Conservative Party of Canada and the People’s Party of Canada have direct links to hate and fascist organizations and pose a serious conduit for hate to become “acceptable discourse.”

Internationally, fascist and other far-right movements have surged to power in Israel, Hungary, Italy, Argentina, El Salva-

dor and ominously, the US. The genocide now happening in Palestine, the ongoing NATO proxy war in Ukraine, the horrendous drive to ramp up war budgets are leading to widespread death and destruction which, if not counteracted, can lead to another world war.

This reality requires a concerted effort by the peace movement to mobilize to make peace and the struggle against fascism the pressing issues of our time.

The World Peace Council and Canadian Peace Congress were founded in 1949 in response to the devastation of WWII and the defeat of fascism. Our efforts have always focused on building a vigorous peace movement which correctly emphasizes the importance of an anti-imperialist perspective. Today, this approach is even more critical because imperialism is completely linked with the rise of fascism worldwide. We need look no further than US support for the Zionist war of extermination in Palestine.

On this crucial 80th anniversary of the “Victory over Fascism” the Canadian Peace Congress calls on all peace-loving peoples to redouble their efforts to win a meaningful peace based on an independent for policy, disarmament, solidarity and peace.

In the Canadian context we emphasize the importance of mobilization to end our government’s support for the fascist Zionist regime in Tel-Aviv. We must continue our efforts to get Canada out of NATO, NORAD and the Five Eyes spy network. We must encourage youth not to kill or die for NATO. ■

Canadian Peace Congress



**Solidarity greetings for International Workers' Day!**

**CANADA CHINA FRIENDSHIP PROMOTION ASSOCIATION**

**ccfpa.ca**



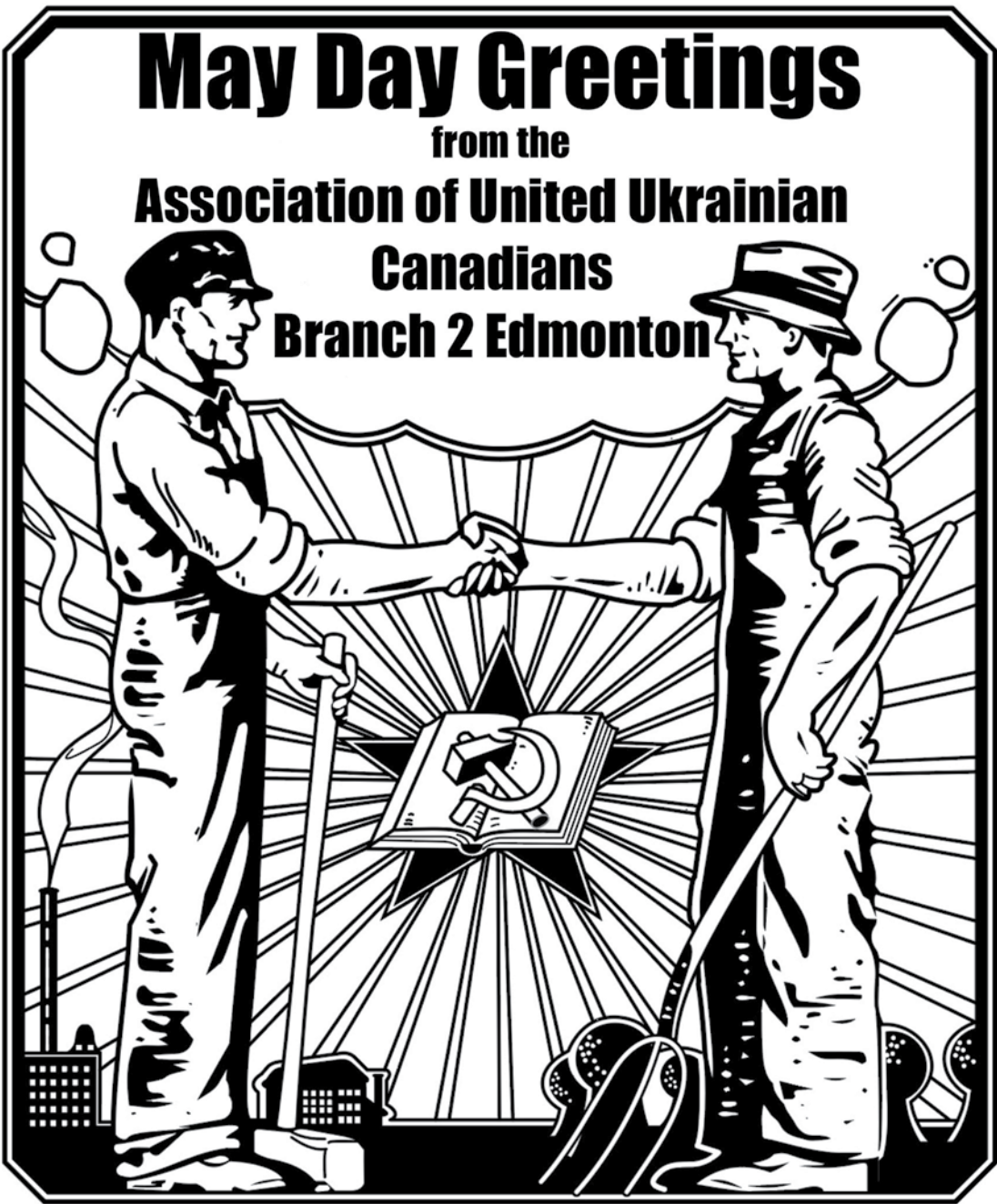




Greetings sisters and brothers,  
friends and comrades on  
MAY 1 - International Day  
of the Working Class - from  
the Committee of Progressive  
Pakistani-Canadians

**Standing against imperialism,  
wars, militarism, poverty,  
inequality, discrimination,  
Islamophobia and religious  
fundamentalism.**

**[pakistanicanadians.ca](http://pakistanicanadians.ca)  
[@pakistanicanadians](https://twitter.com/pakistanicanadians)**








**Canadian-Cuban Friendship Association (Vancouver)**  
*"Building humanitarian Solidarity between Canadian and Cuban Labour"*  
**2368 Upland Drive,  
Vancouver, BC, V5S 2B5  
604-940-0420**






**ATU·Local 107**  
Proudly Serving Hamilton Since 1899


**May Day Greeting from  
Amalgamated Transit Union Local 107**

*Proudly Supporting International Workers' Day  
Unions Make Better Communities*

**Solidarity Forever**



**LONG LIVE  
MAY 1<sup>st</sup>**



**International Workers' Day**

Workers of the World Rise for Peace,  
Social Justice, Democratic Rights  
Tudeh Party of Iran - Canada Organization  
[www.tudehpartyiran.org](http://www.tudehpartyiran.org)  
[tpi.can@gmail.com](mailto:tpi.can@gmail.com)

**RADICAL<sup>DESI</sup>**

**"If you are neutral in situations of injustice,  
you have chosen the side of the oppressor."**  
*~ Desmond Tutu.*

**THE RULE OF THE TOILING MASSES  
WILL BRING A NEW DAWN**

**Happy May Day to all working people**  
**Gurpreet Singh, Radical Desi Publications Ltd.**

*May Day  
Greetings!*

**ONWARDS!  
FOR PEACE &  
SOCIALISM!**

*Scotty Neish Club* 





**May Day Greetings**  
**Sally and Chuck Davis Club**  
**NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR**

**Unite for peace, democracy,  
climate justice and socialism!**



# LABOUR

## BC transit workers reject offer, stay on strike

Transit workers at Transdev in Cowichan Valley, BC, remain on strike after soundly turning down an offer from the employer. The 52 members of Unifor Locals 114 and 333-BC have been on the picket line since February 8. They are fighting for improved working conditions including the company's staunch refusal to provide safe, clean washrooms and reasonable breaks to use them.

The strike affects conventional and HandyDART transit, with the exception of medically necessary travel.

"Bus drivers need to be protected, particularly when it comes to breaks and accessing safe and clean washrooms while on shift," said Unifor Western Regional Director Gavin McGarrigle. "It's unacceptable to be behind the wheel for hours and denied a basic human right. We're going to continue fighting until Transdev addresses this."

The workers voted unanimously for strike action in November. In addition to breaks and washroom facilities, other key issues include wages and pensions..

## LifeLabs strike continues as union presses BC government to act

On rotating strikes since February 15, 1200 workers at LifeLabs, BC's largest private provider of medical tests, are pressing the provincial government to move the company's services into the public system.

The workers, members of BCGEU, are fighting for wage and benefit improvements to keep up with the cost of living, as well as poor working conditions resulting from chronic understaffing. They are paid up to 16 percent below what they would get in the public sector, and LifeLabs is pushing a 20-percent reduction in sick pay for all workers.

LifeLabs is owned by giant US health corporation Quest Diagnostics, which is driving a for-profit model for healthcare. In mid-April, union and community members marched on the BC legislature to ask the province: "Why is an American company sucking millions of public health dollars out of BC?"

The BC NDP announced at the beginning of April that it would move existing contracts away from US suppliers in favour of supporting BC and Canadian businesses.

BCGEU president Paul Finch said the union "is calling on government to make good on their announcement and bring LifeLabs' services into the public system."

## HBC gives managers bonuses, but illegally slashes workers' commissions during liquidation

Unifor is calling out Hudson's Bay Company (HBC) for unilaterally slashing workers' commission pay during its retail liquidation – a move that violates collective agreements and reduces workers' income as they prepare for mass termination.

At the same time that it moves these workers to a base salary only, and in the midst of bankruptcy proceedings, HBC has paid out \$3 million in bonuses to its managers.

"This is a blatant violation of our members' collective agreements and a cruel blow especially since managers have been rewarded with bonuses," said Unifor National President Lana Payne.

Unifor Ontario Regional Director Samia Hashi said, "Workers are being kept in the dark and their pay is being cut without negotiation. This is exactly why we need stronger legislative protections and enforceable penalties for companies that violate workers' rights. Workers should be priority one during corporate insolvency and bankruptcy."

# WFTU calls on workers of the world to reject the war economy, unite for peace and people's needs



The international class-oriented trade union movement, workers and militant unions all over the globe honour with struggles the 139th anniversary of the workers' struggle in Chicago in 1886. The World Federation of Trade Unions (WFTU), the historic international trade union organization representing more than 105 million workers all the length and breadth of the world, sends a cordial and militant message to all workers and farmers, to ordinary people of toil and labour, on the occasion of International Workers Day, which constitutes a lasting and bright milestone of struggle.

This year's May Day coincides with the 80th Anniversary of the WFTU, which was born in the ashes of the most destructive war in the history of humanity, and in the revolutionary fresh air of the great anti-fascist victory of the peoples with the Soviet Union at the forefront. The WFTU completes eight decades of continuous and uninterrupted struggle for the rights of workers, for justice and social progress, against all forms of discrimination, against wars and imperialist interventions, against exploitation.

Both the messages and demands of the Chicago pioneers of 1886 and the needs that inevitably led to the establishment of the WFTU remain relevant and necessary today. The crisis of capitalism deepens and is generalized. Social inequalities are widening dramatically. Democratic freedoms and trade union rights are under attack all over the world, and imperialist wars and interventions are a regular occurrence.

The genocide of the Palestinians in Gaza and in the West Bank, the bombing in Lebanon and other countries of the wider Middle East region – with the support and encouragement of the US, the EU and their allies – continues, revealing in all its grandeur the hypocrisy, cynicism and inhumane nature of imperialism.

## Reject the war economy

At the same time, global defence spending rose to 2.46 trillion USD last year, with big budget increases in countries of Asia, the Middle East, North Africa, and Europe. Notably, there are examples of countries

that are almost doubling their defence spending. At the same time, US President Trump calls for a minimum spending of 5 percent of GDP among NATO members, and the EU Commission Summit decided to finance 800 billion euros for military armament within the ReArm EUROPE project.

The shift towards a war economy is clearly a priority for the ruling circles of capitalism, as it incites profitability for multinational monopolies and the expansion of the geopolitical power of developed imperialist states.

These new massive increases in military spending, apart from being a threat to global peace and security, also mean even harsher austerity policies and widening social inequality. The resources that would be destined for families, workers and ordinary people are cut and diverted to rearmament, and civil and social rights and liberties are placed under guardianship – because in the preparation for war, different opinion are not allowed.

The WFTU and the class-oriented trade unions strongly condemn the war preparations of the capitalist ruling class. Working people have nothing to expect from a new widespread and generalized war but death, poverty, destruction, refugees and hardship.

We demand spending for working people's contemporary needs. We demand adequate education and healthcare and not weapons. We demand dignified working and living conditions, not ammunition and missiles. We demand spending on culture, sport and recreation, not on fighter aircraft and naval vessels.

We demand measures against rising inflation and living costs that erode living standards. We oppose privatization, outsourcing and flexible forms of work that intensify the precarious employment and exploitation, alongside extended retirement ages.

Workers and their social achievements are under relentless attacks and challenges which undermine labour rights, collective agreements and democratic freedoms. Workplace safety remains neglected, causing daily injuries and fatalities.

## Labour mobilizing globally

Despite global challenges, workers do not passively accept the anti-labour offensive on their rights and freedoms. Millions mobilize worldwide for dignified work and the protection of trade union and social rights, with WFTU members firmly at the forefront of these struggles. The response of capitalist governments to working people's just demands is sharpening state repression and authoritarianism. At the same time, employers and governments are attempting to manipulate labour struggles, betting on the role of "yellow unions" and compromised trade union leaders.

In our era it is obvious that the prerequisites for truly dignified working and social living conditions for all workers exist in abundance. The class-oriented trade union movement fights so that the huge productive capabilities are not utilized to increase the profits of capitalists and create unimaginable wealth for a few, but to ensure dignified living and working conditions for those who create and produce the wealth.

Organization and struggle is the only path that can overturn the existing realities of misery, exploitation and social injustice. The weapon of workers everywhere is solidarity and internationalism.

The WFTU remains firmly committed to these principles. It continues its 80-year path with the same vision that inspired its founding: for a world without wars and imperialist interventions, without exploitation and discrimination. A world where work will be permanent, stable, regulated and safe.

On the occasion of May Day 2025, the WFTU calls upon the class and militant trade unions around the world to take initiatives and organize this year's campaign and activities under the slogan: "Their profits or our lives – Hope lies in peoples' struggle!"

NO to war economies! YES to class struggle: against imperialist wars and interventions, against capitalist exploitation, for the satisfaction of workers' contemporary needs. ■





# After 20-year battle, 16,000 part-time and sessional college faculty across Ontario win union recognition



College faculty union leaders had much to celebrate around the historic table at the Ontario Labour Relations Board (OLRB) on April 11. After a long day sorting through thousands of ballots, with 88 percent of ballot-casters voting in favour the union won the vote count: part-time and sessional faculty at all 24 of Ontario’s public colleges will join the Ontario Public Service Employees Union (OPSEU/SEFPO).

Alongside the union’s part-time college support drive in 2018, this marks one of the largest union organizing drives in Canadian history.

“This is historic – after today, Ontario’s college system becomes wall-to-wall union,” said JP Hornick, President of OPSEU/SEFPO. “We’ve fought tooth and nail to get here. There was a time when part-time college workers were one the very few classifications legally excluded from unionizing in Canada.”

Hornick refers to the protracted legal battle to secure the right for part-time workers to unionize. For over four decades following the college system’s establishment in 1965, part-time college workers in Ontario were prohibited from unionizing by the Colleges Collective Bargaining Act (CCBA). The ban was lifted following a 2007 Supreme Court of Canada decision recognizing collective bargaining as a constitutional right – forcing the province to amend the CCBA in 2008.

“We represent over 45,000 college workers. 45,000 workers standing together wield a lot of power. 16,000 more joining them – well, that’s a hell of a lot more and a force to be reckoned with,” added Hornick. “The employer knows this, and it’s why they tried to run interference.”

The historic organizing drive conclud-

ed in October 2017 with part-time faculty voting on union certification. In August 2024, the union received notice from the OLRB that contested ballot boxes were finally being unsealed. The formal vote count was scheduled to take place on April 11 and April 17, 2025, with the process concluding in a victory for workers well ahead of schedule.

Pearline Lung, chair of the union’s faculty division, says that 71 percent of faculty working in Ontario’s colleges are precariously employed, working without job security and little to no benefits. This moment, she says, paves the road not just to better working conditions, but also an expanded ability to fight growing precarity system wide.

“For far too long, the province has drained government funding for post-secondary education,” said Lung. “While college executives jumped at opportunities to turn a buck on price-gouging international tuition and deregulation.”

“Colleges raked in record surpluses for years. How much did students, or workers, see of that? Precarity went up, and we’re seeing access to education go down – all while college CEOs collected sky-high salaries.”

In early April, Global News released data demonstrating that the five highest-paid college presidents made an average of roughly \$492,000 in 2024. Conestoga College’s President, John Tibbits, took home \$636,106.70.

“We’re coming for our fair share, and we’re coming for a better college system,” added Hornick. “In contract negotiations, as in politics, you win what you have the power to fight for. And in terms of building power, today is a game-changer.” ■

# Postal workers warn that the future of the public post office is on the line — time to take action!

For over 150 years, Canadians have relied on Canada Post to stay connected. While many things have changed over the years, the importance of the public post office has not. Canada Post continues to play an integral role in communities across the country.

But it’s under attack. The corporation is pushing drastic cuts – closing post offices, ending door-to-door delivery, expanding Community Mailboxes, outsourcing to private franchises, and even privatization.

What does this mean? Rural and Indigenous communities will travel farther for mail. Community Mailboxes lower property values and pose safety risks, especially for seniors and those with mobility issues. Franchising replaces good jobs with gig work, and privatization will gut services in unprofitable areas.

Competing with US e-commerce giants shouldn’t mean lower standards. Workers deserve fair treatment, and Canadians deserve reliable, to-the-door service!

Postal workers have a better plan! The way forward is through service expansion, not cuts.

Canada Post can play a key role in strengthening Canada’s economy in the face of uncertainty, offer much needed new services like senior check-ins, postal banking, and community hubs, and bring new revenue to the public post office.

After more than a year of unproductive negotiations with Canada Post, postal workers were forced to end their legal strike – a constitutional right – because of Minister of Labour Steven MacKinnon’s order under section 107 of the Canada Labour Code.

Postal workers are also subject to an Industrial Inquiry Commission that is due to have its report out not later than May 15, 2025. Canada Post has asked the Commission to exclude service expansion into non-core areas from its recommendations.

At the same time, Canada Post is seeking major collective agreement changes and is advocating for regulatory changes – something that would normally be examined during a full, public mandate review.

Canada Post is perfectly positioned to live up to its mandate to develop new services to diversify its revenue generating streams to address people’s changing needs – as many other post offices around the world have already done. It can lead the way to a sustainable future by greening its massive infrastructure and fleet, kick-starting our transition towards good, green jobs. And it can play an enhanced role in our communities’ recovery and future resilience.

**“Hands Off My Post Office!”**

During the federal election, the Canadian Union of Postal Workers (CUPW) asked candidates to take the “Hands Off My Post Office!” pledge.

The pledge includes five commitments about the postal service:

- Ensuring that Canada Post remains a Crown Corporation with a strong public service mandate, that it maintains its exclusive privilege, and that it maintains its universal service obligation to deliver letters in Canada at a uniform postage rate. No privatization. No deregulation.
- Ensuring that Canada Post expands its services to include things such as postal banking, check-ins, community hubs to help diversify and increase revenue generating capacity toward financial self-sustainability.
- Ensuring that there are no cuts to postal services, no resumption of the conversion to Community Mail Boxes, and no post office closures – especially in rural, remote and Northern areas.
- Ensuring that Canada Post maintains

■ TIME TO TAKE ACTION, PG. 11



# SolidNet.org

News, documents and calls for action



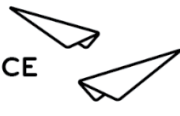
**For peace, disarmament and international solidarity!**  
**May Day greetings ~ Ottawa Peace Council**

## Happy May Day!

Prisoner Correspondence Project is committed to building solidarity across bars by connecting 2SLGBTQ+ people inside and out of prison.

Learn about becoming a pen pal at [prisoner Correspondence Project](http://prisoner Correspondence Project)

PRISONER  
CORRESPONDENCE  
PROJECT




The Association of United Ukrainian Canadians (AUUC) sends its greetings to all those in the struggle for a better world on May Day 2025

For 107 years the AUUC has represented the best and highest ideals of Ukrainian immigrants to Canada for prosperity, democracy, social justice, and *Peace!*


And today, the AUUC is the only Ukrainian Canadian organization that wants peace in Ukraine. We also want an end to hostilities in Gaza. The AUUC urges all Canadians to raise their voice and call for ceasefire and negotiation to *End Those Wars!*

Contact Us :

Toll Free: 800-856-8242  
Local: +1-204-582-4397  
Email: [mail@auucobzar.net](mailto:mail@auucobzar.net)  
[www.auuc.ca](http://www.auuc.ca)



Founded 1918  
Association of United  
Товариство Об'єднаних



Incorporated 1947  
Ukrainian Canadians  
Українських Канадців



## Trans and gender equality key to class struggle

■ FROM PG 3

to lobby for restrictions and limitations. The struggle for gender equality, including full equality for trans people, is critical to the class struggle. Throughout its history, capitalism has relied on institutionalizing the “sexual division of labour” – with defined roles ascribed to men and women – in order to constantly reproduce itself.

Key to this is maintaining this division is patriarchal notion of categorical distinctions between “men” and “women” – totalizing specific biological differences to the point that they become definitive in social, economic and political spheres. Any serious challenge to those strict roles and classifications, including through different gender identities or sexual orientations, is severely suppressed.

In Canada, the bulk of the labour movement has fought long and hard for many years to win concrete advances for women – pay equity, maternity leave, measures against harassment and violence, abortion rights and more. Labour is generally a strong and consistent advocate for trans and gender diverse people.

Now, working people are facing multiple threats – through Donald Trump’s vicious economic war, combined with an intensifying drive from corporations in Canada to reduce wages and eliminate labour rights. It’s no accident that this assault includes attacks on women’s rights and on gender equality in general. Corporate forces will be quick to use the British court’s decision to sow division among the ranks of the resistance.

This is the time to speak up for trans rights. Governments at all levels should be pressed to state where they stand on gender equality and on the issue of trans rights. To avoid doing so abandons many thousands of vulnerable people to increased attacks and hate, and it relegates the working-class struggle to a narrow and distorted patch of ground.

The program of the Communist Party of Canada, which rejects the gender binary and acknowledges that trans women are women, makes this clear: “Eradicating gender inequality will be crucial for putting capitalism altogether behind us and advancing to a higher stage of history.” ■

## Planned economy is only rational response

■ FROM PG 12

finite resources. This contradiction is at the heart of climate change, environmental destruction and the deepening ecological crisis. The drive for ever-increasing profits leads to deforestation, pollution, depletion of natural resources and the reckless expansion of industry at the expense of the environment.

Without a planned approach to energy, agriculture and industrial production, humanity is on the path to climate catastrophe and mass extinction.

A planned economy is the only rational response to this crisis. By coordinating production, energy use and resource management, a socialist system will have to prioritize sustainability over profit. Instead of chasing GDP growth at all costs, a planned economy would focus on human well-being, ecological balance and long-term social development.

Capitalist growth by contrast is cancerous – it expands uncontrollably, destroying everything in its path. Socialist planning offers the only viable alternative to this madness.

### Conclusion: The case for socialist planning

Public ownership of key industries is a necessary first step, but without democratic planning, it remains a tool that can be wielded by any ruling class to stabilize capitalism rather than abolish it. The real struggle is for an economy that serves the needs of the working class, not just one that accommodates them.

The most successful economies – whether socialist or capitalist, a nation or a firm – already rely on planning at various levels. The question is not whether planning works, but who owns the means of production, therefore who controls it and for what purpose.

A socialist economy must be built on worker control, democratic decision-making and long-term planning to ensure the survival of both humanity and the planet.

The alternative – continuing down the road of capitalist chaos – is a future of crises, inequality and environmental collapse. ■

## Call for unity against rising attacks

■ FROM PG 3

defence of our common interests. For example, in direct practical terms, adoption of the UK Supreme Court model in Canada would give private and religious-based educational institutions a handy tool to adopt regulations giving management far greater abilities to hire and fire on the basis of arbitrary and meaningless criteria, from gender identity ultimately to such measures as marriage status and personal religious belief.

We condemn the rising reactionary attack on the rights of trans people and the 2SLGBTQ+ community, and on the equal rights of women, who live in a capitalist society which is still deeply marked by misogyny and inequality. We call for unity of the labour and people's movements across Canada to push back against this dangerous trend. ■

Communist Party of Canada

Photo: ACLU

## Time to take action to preserve and expand Canada Post

■ FROM PG 9

and creates good jobs, with benefits and fair wages, helping to benefit the communities in which postal workers live. Ensure that there is no gigification of existing or future jobs at Canada Post.

Ensuring that Canada Post becomes an environmental leader through expanding consolidated last mile delivery, greening the fleet with union-made electric vehicles, and retrofitting its buildings for cost savings and to help fight climate change.

The pledge also includes three commitments about workers’ rights: preserving workers’ right to strike; preserving the right to free and fair collective bargaining; and denouncing and voting against any back to work legislation, use of the Canada Labour Code or other government manoeuvres to force an end to legal strikes. ■

## WHAT’S LEFT

### NANAIMO

#### MAY 1 | MAY DAY PRESS BENEFIT

5 PM at 596 Albert Street. Celebrate labour's victories with a screening of "Cuba: Resistance & Solidarity." Admission by donation, proceeds to People's Voice.

### VANCOUVER

#### MAY 25 | PUENTES DE AMOR RALLY

1 PM at the corner of Commercial and Broadway. Cuba solidarity rally with CCFA Vancouver.

### WINNIPEG

#### MAY 25 | END THE BLOCKADE

1-2 PM at the corner of River and Osborne. Join the Manitoba Cuba Solidarity Committee for monthly action calling for an end to the US blockade of Cuba.

### TORONTO

#### MAY 10 | PEOPLE'S NOISE

5 PM until late at Danu Social House, 1237 Queen St. West. Third annual fundraiser for People's Voice, with raffle and karaoke.

### TORONTO

#### MAY 22 | TACTICS AND COALITIONS

7 PM at Danforth Anglican Church, 361 Danforth Ave. Discussion on labour organizing with trade unionist and author Tony Leah.

### TORONTO

#### MAY 23 | LEFT TRIVIA FUNDRAISER

7 PM at the GCDO Hall, 290 Danforth Ave. Join People's Voice for a night of left-wing trivia.

### TORONTO

#### MAY 25 | END THE BLOCKADE

1 PM at the US Consulate, 360 University Ave. Join CCFA Toronto and other Cuba solidarity activists for a monthly picket against the US blockade.

### OTTAWA

#### MAY 17 | CUBA SOLIDARITY PICKET

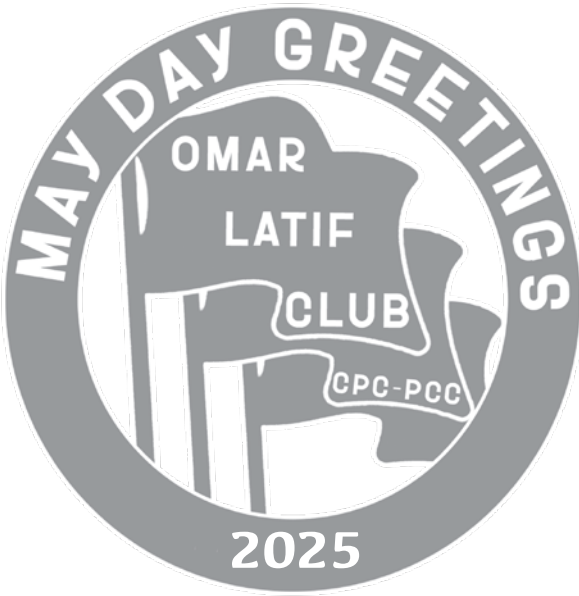
1:30 PM at the US Embassy, 490 Sussex Drive. Join Ottawa Cuba Connections for monthly action to call for an end to the blockade and the return of the Guantanamo base to Cuba.

### OTTAWA

#### MAY 25 | PUENTES DE AMOR RALLY

11 AM at the Cuban Embassy, 338 Main St. Monthly action in solidarity with Cuba, calling for an end to the blockade and the return of the Guantanamo base.

2025 PV FUND DRIVE  
MAKE AN INVESTMENT IN CANADA'S LEADING  
WORKING-CLASS PUBLICATION!  
PLEASE SEND A CONTRIBUTION TODAY  
PVONLINE.CA/DONATE



**PEOPLE'S VOICE** Subscription form

Please make cheques payable to People's Voice and mail to 290A Danforth Ave, Toronto, ON, M4K 1N6. For digital payments, please see instructions below.

\$40 one year: ☐ \$20 one year low-income: ☐ \$80 for one year (print) outside CAN: ☐

Please specify type of subscription: ☐ print ☐ digital (email)

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_


ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

TEL: \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

Prefer to pay electronically? E-transfer to [pvoicepayment@gmail.com](mailto:pvoicepayment@gmail.com) or use our PayPal link at [PVonline.ca](https://www.paypal.com/donate/?url=https://www.pvonline.ca)



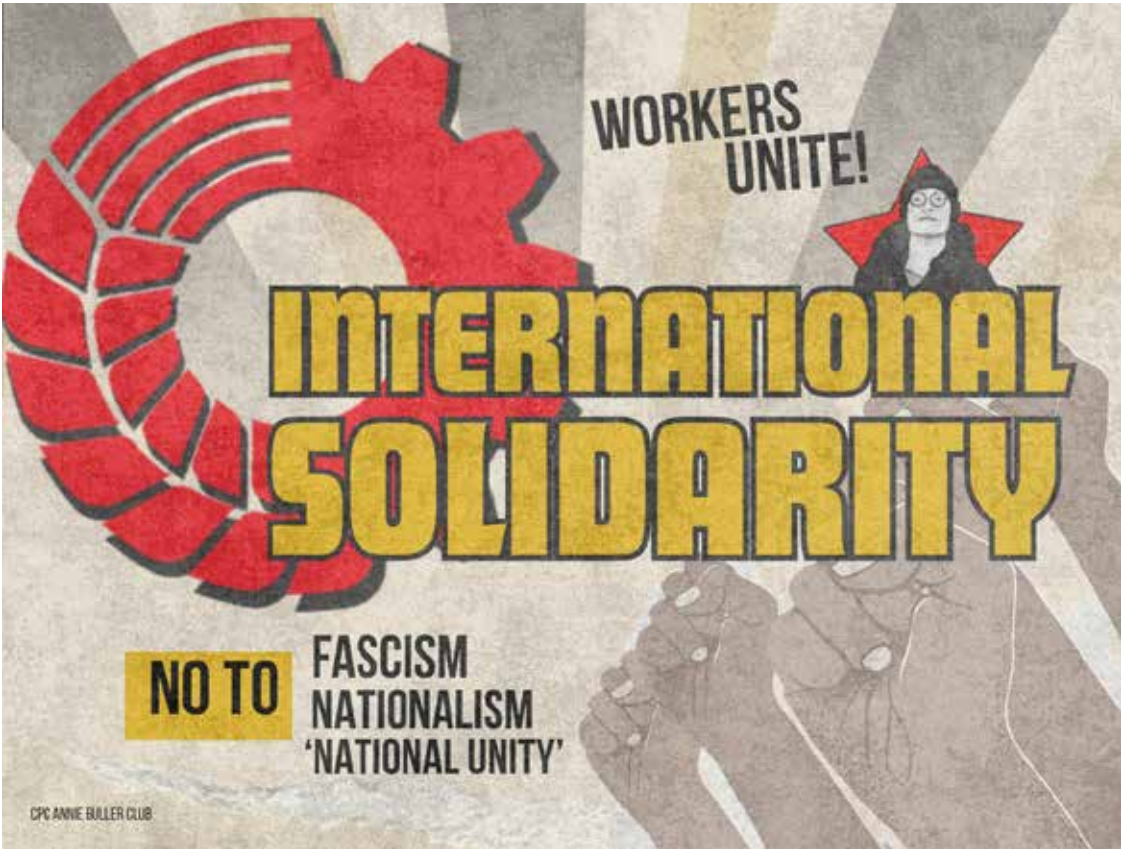




**May Day Greetings from the  
Canadian Union of Public Employees  
Local 1978 in Victoria, BC**

Proudly supporting May Day in solidarity with millions of  
workers worldwide who are resisting exploitation.





**WORKERS  
UNITE!**

**INTERNATIONAL  
SOLIDARITY**

**NO TO** FASCISM  
NATIONALISM  
'NATIONAL UNITY'

CPC ANNIE BULLER CLUB



**MAYDAY  
GREETINGS  
FROM THE**

**PUBLIC  
SECTOR  
WORKERS  
CLUB**

**ON THE  
FRONT LINES  
AGAINST  
PRIVATIZATION**


**PEACE...  
...is everybody's business!**

**May Day Greetings!**

REGINA PEACE COUNCIL  
OTTAWA PEACE COUNCIL  
ST. JOHN'S PEACE COUNCIL  
VANCOUVER PEACE COUNCIL  
FRASER VALLEY PEACE COUNCIL  
NEW BRUNSWICK PEACE COUNCIL  
TORONTO ASSOCIATION FOR PEACE AND SOLIDARITY  
VANCOUVER ISLAND PEACE COUNCIL  
EDMONTON PEACE COUNCIL  
KINGSTON PEACE COUNCIL



**Mobilize For Peace, Build Our Congress!**  
INFO@CANADIANPEACECONGRESS.CA WWW.CANADIANPEACECONGRESS.CA



**Happy May Day  
to our readers  
and friends in  
Canada.**

**PeoplesWorld.org**

À l'occasion de la journée  
internationale des  
travailleurs 2024  
le Mouvement québécois  
pour la paix



vous envoie ses salutations  
fraternelles !

**Vive la paix !  
À bas l'impérialisme !  
Canada hors de l'OTAN !**

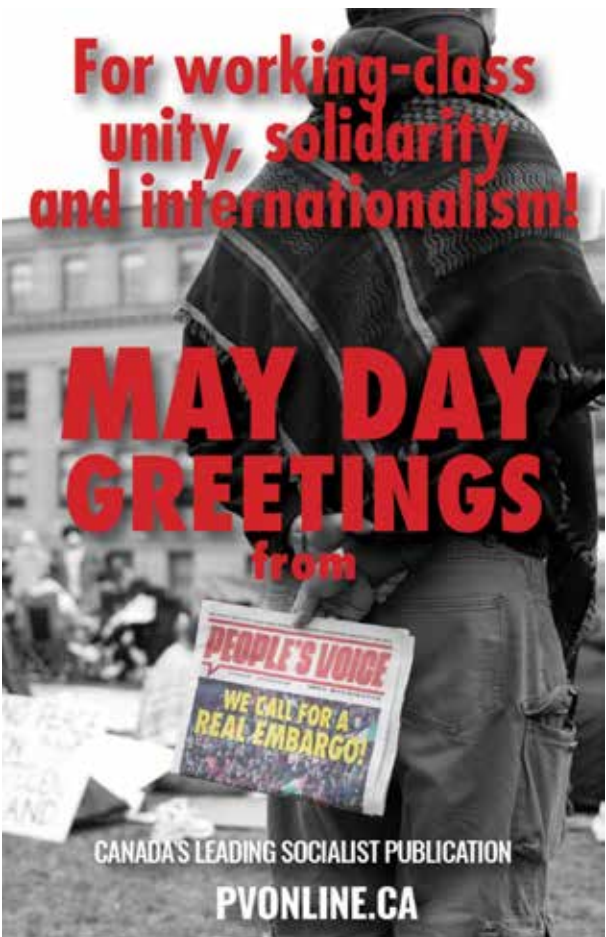


**Canada:  
Say 'NO!' to the  
F-47 Fighter Jet!**

Regina Peace Council



**This May Day, CPC Nanaimo Club declares:  
Palestine will be free in spite of Donald Trump!**



**For working-class  
unity, solidarity  
and internationalism!**

**MAY DAY  
GREETINGS**  
from

**PEOPLE'S VOICE**  
WE CALL FOR A  
REAL EMBARGO!

CANADA'S LEADING SOCIALIST PUBLICATION  
PVONLINE.CA



**DOWNTOWN  
Comics**  
141 DUCKWORTH STREET, ST. JOHN'S, NL

**DOWNTOWNCOMICS.CA**



**NEW  
LABOUR  
PRESS**

**HAPPY MAY DAY TO ALL PEOPLE'S VOICE READERS**  
VISIT OUR STORE FOR LEFT-WING BOOKS: NEWLABOURPRESSCANADA.CA



# The case for planning: A rational economy for the working class (and the climate)

EOGHAN O'NEILL

Over a series of articles in Ireland's *Socialist Voice*, writer Eoghan O'Neill tackles myths of capitalist efficiency, exposes the failures of privatization, and demonstrates the necessity of public ownership. O'Neill argues that nationalization of key sectors of the economy can ensure equitable access to essential services and help return economic power to the working class and local communities. In this instalment, which is slightly edited for length and context, O'Neill examines the importance of economic planning to securing prosperity for working-class people.

Nationalization of industry alone is not socialism, nor can we say that a nationalization program is in of itself a road to socialism. State ownership of key industries can occur under any political manifestation. A party could conceivably nationalize industries if it served their political interests and didn't fundamentally challenge the hegemony of the ruling capitalist class. This would serve to merely accommodate or appease the working class without empowering it.

Nationalization under capitalism often serves as a temporary fix to stabilize the economy, historically to either dampen threats of radical and revolutionary political advancement (post WWII welfare states construction), to avert capitalist crisis (nationalizing debt during the Great Recession) or to steer, plan and direct a war economy (US during WWII, Russia today) while maintaining the fundamental structures of private profit and class hierarchy. It does not challenge the profit-driven anarchy of the market.

Being conscious of this allows us to decipher the political choices available to us. What really truly separates a party of the working class from a party that appeases the working class is the question of planning. A socialist economy is not just about nationalization and state ownership – it is about rational, democratic planning to serve societal needs.

Fundamentally though, one cannot plan an economy if it has no ownership of the economy, and therefore no control over the means of production, so taking ownership over key sectors of the

economy is a prerequisite to a planned economy. It is important to remark that the state does not need to take over 100 percent of enterprises, but it does need to have ownership in enough enterprises and sectors of the economy to allow it to plan without the interference of private interests undermining national plans on infrastructural, agricultural and industrial projects.

It is this essential question, where planning takes precedence over the free market, in satisfying the needs, wants and desires of society, that one can talk about transitioning from a capitalist mode of production to a socialist mode of production.

### The success of planning: contemporary lessons from China

One of the clearest examples of the power of planning is China's economic rise. Through state-led industrial policy, infrastructure investment, and strategic development, China has lifted over 800 million people out of poverty in just a few decades, led by the political stewardship of the Communist Party.

The Chinese state's ability to control key industries, direct investment, and implement long-term economic strategies has allowed for sustained growth, technological advancement and infrastructure development on a scale unprecedented in modern history. It has been able to do this due to a level of state ownership in mixed-ownership enterprises (MOEs) and state-owned enterprises (SOEs) in the Chinese economy.

Unlike capitalist economies, where short-term profit motives dictate decision-making, China's economy has been guided by Five-Year Plans, which set clear priorities for national development, technological innovation and social progress. This model has demonstrated how planning can drive economic success without succumbing to the chaos of market speculation.

### Planning as the only rational response to the climate emergency

Capitalism, by its very nature, is addicted to infinite growth, even though we live on a planet with

■ **PLANNED ECONOMY, PG 10**

**international  
workers day**

**help workers fight  
back and improve  
their conditions**



**WHERE THE  
ON TO OTTAWA  
TREK BEGAN IN  
1935**



**From the west coast, salute  
to all workers in struggle!**

**UNITE AND FIGHT FOR A SOCIALIST  
FUTURE AND WORLD PEACE!**



**BC COMMITTEE COMMUNIST PARTY OF CANADA**  
706 Clark Drive, Vancouver, 604-254-9836, info@cpcbc.ca



**Marxism-Leninism Today**  
The Electronic Journal of Marxist Leninist Thought

**MAY DAY GREETINGS**  
mltoday.com

**Greeting of Solidarity  
to All Workers  
on May Day 2025**



**VDLC**  
VANCOUVER & DISTRICT  
LABOUR COUNCIL

**Celebrate International Workers Day  
on May 1 at The Birdhouse  
(44 W 4th Ave in Vancouver)**

Visit [vdlc.ca/events](http://vdlc.ca/events) for more information

